



# Arizona Department of Public Safety

**- For Immediate Release -**

Friday, March 14, 2008

## Arizona Department of Public Safety traffic stop results in arrest of Phoenix man involved in elaborate fraud scheme *Suspect happened to be stopped while enroute to his court appearance stemming from previous identity theft arrest*

On November 28, 2007, an Arizona Department of Public Safety Officer arrested Robert Arthur Hyde Rego in Navajo County following a routine traffic stop. Inside his vehicle were several items related to identity theft. On March 3, 2008, another DPS Officer stopped Rego in Navajo County and found several documents associated with identity theft and arrested him for fraudulent schemes, forgery and identity theft. At the time of the second arrest Rego was enroute to his court appearance stemming from his November arrest.

DPS Officers forwarded the documents found in Rego's vehicle to the Criminal Investigations Division for follow up. Detectives from the DPS General Investigations Unit (GIU) had already linked Rego to approximately six other people who were committing an elaborate fraud scheme against Walmart, Kmart and other stores. Detectives were able to determine that Rego was able to manufacture receipts from stores, manufacture barcodes to reduce prices, and make purchases with stolen credit cards. A subsequent investigation produced a search warrant for a storage unit leased to Rego. Inside the unit was a Walmart receipt maker, a barcode maker, a computer and approximately \$8,000 to \$10,000 worth of stolen property.

Rego currently has charges pending in Maricopa County, Mohave County, and Navajo County. He was booked into Navajo County Jail on March 4 and was released March 12 pending trial.

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